Message Text

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: PFOR GV EG LY

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN- LIBYAN MEDIATION BY GUINEA

- 1. ACCORDING TO BOTH GUINEAN AND ARAB LOCAL SOURCES, PURPOSE OF VISIT TO CONAKRY IN JANUARY 4-6 PERIOD BY EGYPTIAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER MUHAMMAD HAFIZ GHANIM AND LIBYAN MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ALI TRAYKI WAS TO PURSUE GUINEAN MEDIATION INITIATIVE BETWEEN SADAT AND QADHAFI, AS FOLLOW-UP TO GUINEAN PRIME MINISTER BEAVOGUI'S VISITS TO TRIPOLI AND CAIRO LAST MONTH
- 2. GHANIM AND TRAYKI MET WITH PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE, TOGETHER (SO FAR UNPUBLICIZED), AND REPORTEDLY EXCHANGED VIEWS ON PROBLEM OF LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN RAPPROACHMENT. SOME PROGRESS ALLEGEDLY WAS MADE. GOG SOURCE DESCRIBED EXERCISE AS TENTATIVE "TESTING THE WATER TEMPERATURE" TO PROBE HOW FAR EACH SIDE WILLING TO GO. BOTH OFFICIALS RETURNED TO CAPITALS TO MAKE REPORT TO PRESIDENTS, AND GOG EXPECTS TO HAVE REACTION IN WEEK OR SO, AFTER WHICH NEXT STEPS MAY BE CLEARER. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 CONAKR 00052 121051Z

3. GOG SOURCES HAVE VAGUELY HINTED AT POSSIBLE SUMMIT CLIMAXING INITIATIVE. ARAB SOURCES QUERIED DOUBT SUBJECT OF SUMMIT WAS EXPLICITLY BROACHED. RARITY OF SEKOU TOURE LEAVING COUNTRY AND UNLIKELIHOOD OF TWO ARAB PRESIDENTS COMING TO CONAKRY LEAVE MULTILATERAL AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT THIS SPRING AS A POSSIBLE SITE. SOURCES DENY OAU IS

INVOLVED IN GOG ACTION BUT INDICATE CONAKRY IS NOT THE
ONLY SECLUDED SPOT WHERE LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN FEELERS ARE
UNDER WAY.
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